Productivity agreement with Aircraft Engineers has been concluded but is yet to be implemented.

Productivity payments are based on norms which are agreed with the respective Unions/Association/Guilds, hence the question of making productivity allowance payment to other categories does not arise.

Expenditure incurred on Diamond Jublee of Civil Aviation

897. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what is the expenditure incurred by Indian Airlines, Air India and the International Airports Authority of India for celebrating the Diamond Jublee of Civil Aviation;

(b) whether the employees of Air India and Indian Airlines and IAAI were given monetary gifts and gifts in kind;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the purchase procedure of Government was followed while purchasing gifts in kind?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Indian Airlines, Air India and International Airports Authority of India have incurred an expenditure of Rs. 4.53 crores. Rs. 9.33 crores and Rs. 2.57 crores respectively on account of Diamond Jublee celebration of Civil Aviation.

(b) and (c) Indian Airlines made one time payment to its employees ranging from Rs. 1000 to Rs. 3000 depending upon their length of service. IAAI made one time payment to its employees ranging from Rs. 3000 to Rs. 5500 depending upon their length of service. Air India had distributed Wrist watches to their employees and special invitees at a cost of approximately Rs. 1.42 crores. The Employees were also given one time payment ranging from Rs. 4000 to Rs. 5500 depending upon their length of service.

(d) A Committee constituted by Air India had invited offers from HMT, Allwyn and Titan. Only HMT and Titan submitted their quotations and samples. The comittee selected Titan watches.

Violation of guidelines issued to Air Taxi Operators

898. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what is the amount of Inland Air Travel Tax (IATT) outstanding for payment to Government by Bombay-based Air Taxi Operator, East-West Airlines;

(b) whether non-payment of IATT is a violation of guidelines issued to Air Taxi Operators by the Director-General of Civil Aviation; and

(c) if so, what action Government have taken against such violations?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) As in February, 1993 an amount of Rs. 14.28 crores was outstanding against M/s East West Airlines.

(b) Air Taxi guidelines issued by the DGCA does not contain any reference to the payment of IATT.

(c) Show Cause Notices have been issued by the Competent Authorities of the Customs Department to the defaulting air taxi operators under the provisions of IATT Rules, 1989 for recovery of the outstanding dues.

Complaints about the selection of staff in Trivandurm International Airport

899. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has received any complaints about the selection of staff in Trivandrum International Airport; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAB NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) International Airports Authority of India (IAAI) have received some complaints with regard to appointment/Selections made at Trivandrum International Airport. These are being looked into.

Special leave for favoured employees in A.I.

900. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item captioned "SPECIAL LEAVE FOR FAVOURED EMPLOYEES" which appeared in the 'MIDDAY' Bombay of 7th September 1989; and

(b) if so, what action Government are proposing to step such favouritism in Air India?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes, Sir. The allegation made in the news item is not true in that Air India has not refused Special leave to any person on a request made by recognised Union/Association/Guild during the last five years.

(b) Does not arise.

Sanction of special casual leave by AI

901. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) how many employees have been sanctioned special casual leave by Air India for more than 10 days during the preceding three calendar years;

(b) the details of such sanction with reasons for such leave granted;

(c) whether the Managing Director of Air India is authorised to sanction more than 10 days special casual leave to its employees; and

(d) if not, who authorised the sanction herein above?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Requests for special leave rejected by AI

902. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) in how many cases requests for Special Leave have not been considered by Air India during the last three years; and

(b) the details of all such requests rejected by Air India for Special Leave during the above period alongwith the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) As per records during the last three years, Special Leave has not been refused to any person on a request made by recognised Unions/Associations/Guilds.

(b) Does not arise.

SC/ST employees of Air India under suspension

903. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) how many SC/ST employees of Air India have been placed under Suspension for more than six months during the last three years:

(b) the details of each case with period of suspension;

(c) in how many cases enquiry has been conducted and in how many cases the concerned persons have been found guilty: and

(d) whether any salary for the suspension period has been paid to such employees not found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GULAM NABI AZAD): (a) During the last 3 years nine SC/ST employees of Air India have been placed under suspension for more than six months.